

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please replace the Abstract of the originally filed application with the following amended paragraph:

An apparatus includes: (a) a character image extraction unit for extracting character image data of handwritten characters filled into character entry boxes from image data scanned from a character entry sheet in which the handwritten characters are filled into the character entry boxes corresponding to respective character codes; (b) a character positional information storage section storing character positional information of font character space defined for each of characters; (c) a character positional information calculation section calculating the amount of movement for moving the extracted character image data to a character position of the font character space defined in the character positional information; (d) a character position alignment section moving the character image data to the character position of the font character space defined in the character positional information, based on the calculated amount of movement; and (e) a character font generation section generating font characters of the handwritten character font based on the moved character image data.